

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: APER, TP (TIENKEN, ARTHUR T.)

SUBJ: PRESENTATION OF CREDENTIALS, SAO TOME AND PRINCIPE

REF: STATE 060269

1. WE HAVE BEEN IN PROCESS OF ATTEMPTING ARRANGE
MUTUALLY SATISFACTORY TIME FOR PRESENTATION OF MY
CREDENTIALS TO PRESIDENT DA COSTA OF STP, THUS FAR
WITHOUT SUCCESS SINCE COMMUNICATIONS WITH STP AT BEST
ARE POOR.

2. IN ANTICIPATION THAT ARRANGEMENTS WILL BE SET
BEFORE TOO LONG, HOWEVER, WE HAVE PREPARED FOLLOWING
PROPOSED REMARKS WHICH WE UNDERSTAND ARE READ OUT
AS PART OF CREDENTIALS CEREMONY. PROPOSED TEXT FOLLOWS
FOR DEPARTMENT'S CONSIDERATION AND EARLY REPLY:

"MR. PRESIDENT:

I HAVE THE HONOR TO PRESENT TO YOU THE LETTERS BY
WHICH THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
MR. JIMMY CARTER, HAS ACCREDITED ME TO YOUR EXCELLENCY
AS AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA. I WOULD ALSO LIKE TO TAKE
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ADVANTAGE OF THIS OCCASION TO PRESENT THE LETTER OF
RECALL OF MY PREDECESSOR, MR. ANDREW L. STEIGMAN.

"IT IS A PLEASURE AND AN HONOR FOR ME TO BE HERE IN
YOUR LOVELY COUNTRY AND I HOPE THAT WITHIN THE NEXT
FEW DAYS I CAN BECOME MORE FULLY ACQUAINTED WITH YOU,
THE MEMBERS OF YOUR GOVERNMENT, THE PEOPLE OF SAO TOME

AND PRINCIPE AND THE ISLANDS THEMSELVES. I, MY WIFE
AND MY COLLEAGUES ARE ALREADY GRATEFUL FOR THE CORDIAL
RECEPTION WHICH HAS BEEN ACCORDED US AND BY THE WARMTH
AND FRIENDSHIP OF THE PEOPLE MANIFESTED HERE TODAY
PRECEDING THIS CEREMONY. THE SAO TOMEAN PRACTICE OF
MAKING THESE CEREMONIES PUBLIC CEREMONIES TO BE
SHARED BY AS MANY CITIZENS AS POSSIBLE SEEMS TO ME
A PARTICULARLY STRIKING WAY OF MANIFESTING THE
TRADITIONS OF YOUR REPUBLIC.

"SINCE THE INDEPENDENCE OF THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC
OF SAO TOME AND PRINCIPE NEARLY THREE YEARS AGO NOW,
THE RELATIONS BETWEEN OUR TWO GOVERNMENTS HAVE
EXPANDED AND BEEN REINFORCED. I AM PARTICULARLY
PLEASED THAT LAST YEAR WE WERE ABLE TO CONCLUDE A
MODEST ASSISTANCE AGREEMENT AIMED AT CONTRIBUTING TO
THE REALIZATION OF YOUR AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT GOALS
BY HELPING YOUR COUNTRY DIVERSIFY YOUR AGRICULTURE
AS RAPIDLY AS POSSIBLE AND THEREBY DECREASE THE NEED
TO RELAY ON IMPORTS OF CERTAIN PRODUCTS. I UNDERSTAND
THAT THE FIRST PLANTINGS WITH SEEDS AND ASSISTANCE
UNDER OUR JOING PROGRAM TOOK PLACE SEVERAL WEEKS AGO
AND THAT WE CAN EXPECT SOME PRELIMINARY RESULTS IN
THE NOT DISTANT FUTURE. I ALSO HAVE BEEN INFORMED THAT
THE MATERIALS AND EQUIPMENT AGREED TO UNDER OUR BI-
LATERAL AGREEMENT HAVE BEEN ORDERED AND TRUST THEY
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WILL BE DELIVERED AS EXPEDITIOUSLY AS POSSIBLE.

"BUILDING ON THIS TENTATIVE BEGINNING IN DEVELOP-
MENTAL COOPERATION, I AM HOPEFUL AND CONFIDENT THAT
WE CAN INCREASE OUR COOPERATION IN OTHER DOMAINES
SUCH AS CULTURAL, ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL. TO THIS END,
I AND THE MEMBERS OF MY STAFF WILL CONTINUE TO MAKE
FREQUENT PERIODIC VISITS TO INCREASE THE DIALOGUE AND
REINFORCE THE COMMUNICATIONS BETWEEN YOUR GOVERNMENT
AND OUR MISSION.

"DESPITE THE DISPARITY IN SIZE, MR. PRESIDENT,
OUR TWO NATIONS HAVE MANY SIMILARITIES IN HISTORY.
BOTH WERE FIRST "DISCOVERED" BY EUROPEAN EXPLORERS
IN THE FIFTEENTH CENTURY AND BOTH OVER THE SUCCEEDING
FIVE CENTURIES BECAME "NATIONS OF IMMIGRANTS." BOTH HAVE
BENEFITTED FROM THE DIVERSITY AND THE VARYING
BACKGROUNDS OF THESE IMMIGRANTS. SINCE THEN THE
COURSES OF OUR HISTORIES HAVE EVOLVED DIFFERENTLY
AND TODAY WE MAY NOT ALWAYS SEE WORLD EVENTS FROM
THE SAME PERSPECTIVE WHICH IS QUITE NATURAL. NONETHELESS,
MR. PRESIDENT, I BEILEVE THAT WE WILL MUTUALLY BENEFIT

FROM FREQUENT EXCHANGES OF OPINIONS AND POINTS OF VIEW.
TO THAT END I PLEDGE MYSELF AND THE MEMBERS OF MY
STAFF TO BE AVAILABLE FOR COMPLETE AND FRANK REVIEW
OF ANY ISSUE.

"THE PEOPLE OF THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF SAO TOME
AND PRINCIPE AND THE PEOPLE OF THE UNITED STATES OF
AMERICA BOTH SEEK PEACE AND PROSPERITY. TO THE EXTENT
THAT WE CAN COOPERATE AMONG OURSELVES IN SEARCH OF THESE
GOALS, WE CAN CONTRIBUTE TO THEIR REALIZATION. I LOOK
FORWARD TO THIS MISSION WHICH I UNDERTAKE OFFICIALLY
TODAY AND I LOOK FORWARD TO MANY SOJOURNS IN
YOUR BEAUTIFUL COUNTRY.

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"IN CLOSING, MR. PRESIDENT, I WOULD LIKE TO THANK
YOU ONCE AGAIN FOR THE WARMTH OF YOUR WELCOME AND FOR
OUR HOSPITABLE RECEPTION HERE."

3. REMARKS WILL HAVE TO BE MADE IN FRENCH BY ME, BUT
ENGLISH COPY THAT I WILL HAND TO PRESIDENT SHOULD BE
ACCOMPANIED BY UNOFFICIAL TRANSLATION IN PORTUGUESE.
I WOULD THEREFORE APPRECIATE BOTH A FRENCH VERSION
I CAN READ AND A PORTUGUESE VERSION I CAN GIVE PRESIDENT.

4. I WILL, OF COURSE, DISCUSS QUESTION OF DIPLOMATIC
ACCREDITATION TO WASHINGTON WITH PRESIDENT, BUT DO NOT
BELIEVE SUBJECT SHOULD BE INCLUDED IN FORMAL REMARKS.

5. FOR DAO KINSHASA: APPRECIATE YOUR WILLINGNESS PROVIDE
TRANSPORT AND WILL BE IN TOUCH AGAIN WHEN ARRANGEMENTS ARE
SET.TIENKEN

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